



ICD-9-CM Coding Request

Extravasation of Vesicant Chemotherapy

Lisa Schulmeister, RN, MN, APRN-BC, OCN®, FAAN



Extravasation

“the act of passing out of a vessel or organ”

Intravenous (IV) chemotherapy drugs

Vesicants: have the potential to cause a chemical burn if they inadvertently go into the tissue

Non-vesicants: do not cause tissue damage

Two considerations

- 1) Complication: extravasation into the tissue
- 2) Substance being infused: vesicant chemotherapy

Extravasation of vesicant chemotherapy

May occur when:

- IV catheters dislodge
- IV catheters leak
- IV devices break or malfunction



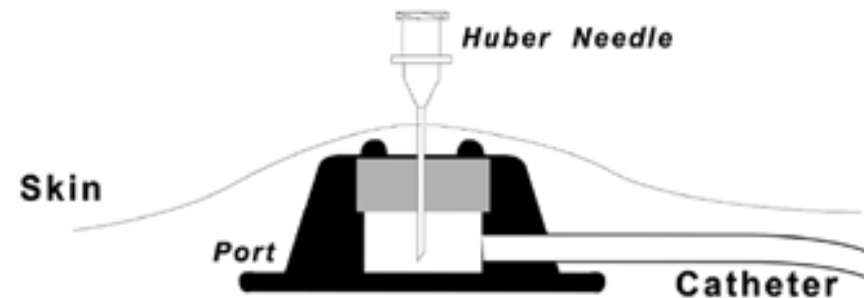
Code 996.1, mechanical complication of other vascular device, implant, or graft
Encompasses complication, but not substance being infused.



Extravasation of vesicant chemotherapy

May occur when:

- needles are incompletely placed into implanted ports
- needles dislodge from implanted ports



Vesicant inadvertently infuses into tissue. Not a device complication (996.1) and not a vascular complication (999.2 other vascular complications).



Extravasation of vesicant chemotherapy

Has occurred when:

---vesicants intended for IV administration have inadvertently been given IM or SQ

Not a device complication and not a vascular complication.





Extravasations of vesicant chemotherapy are chemical burns of the tissue that occur as a result of various causes.



999 Complications of medical care, NEC

999.8_ Other complications of transfusions and infusions

999.81 Other transfusion reaction (now 999.8)

**999.82 Extravasation of vesicant
chemotherapy**

“Extravasation of vesicant chemotherapy”

- Terminology used in clinical practice & the literature.
- Accurately reflects the process that is occurring.
- Having a specific, clearly stated code would help CMS collect data about this complication.
- This data could be used to improve clinical practice, promote safety, and enhance quality of care.